

Application No.: 09/728,267  
Response dated: December 8, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of September 8, 2004

### REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present claims, in light of the attached claim clarifications and the Remarks, which follow, is respectfully requested.

Claims now before the Examiner are 1-10, claims 11-29 having been withdrawn.

Support for the amendments to claim 1 is found at page 31, lines 6-7.

#### **Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

*Claims 1-4 and 6-9 stand Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as Anticipated by WO 01/81436 (Hlatky).*

Hlatky suggests only ionic liquids, some of which are liquid to -100°C (page 6, lines 3-9). As such, Hlatky fails to disclose ionic compounds which are solids, as presently claimed. Failing such disclosure, no Anticipation is present. Withdrawal of the Rejection is respectfully requested.

*Claims 1-4 stand Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as Anticipated by US 5,892,124 (Olivier).*

Olivier suggests liquid ionic media (column 2, lines 27-29). Similarly to the above discussion, failure to disclose ionic compounds which are solids, fails to Anticipate the present claims. Withdrawal of the Rejection is respectfully requested.

*Claims 1-3 stand Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as Anticipated by US 6,025,529 (Barhmann).*

Barhmann also suggests a non-aqueous ionic ligand liquid. (column 4, lines 25-26). Failure to disclose ionic compounds which are solids fails to Anticipate the present claims. Accordingly, no Anticipation exists. Withdrawal of the Rejection is respectfully requested.

All the Examiner's Objections and Rejections have been addressed.

The claims are in condition for allowance.

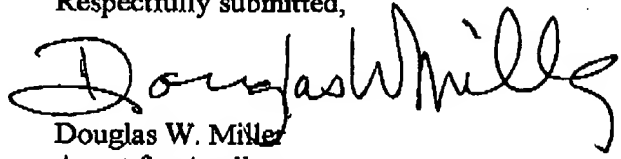
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Respectfully submitted,



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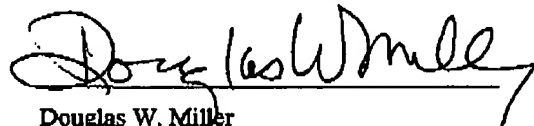
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December 8, 2004

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